

**Town of Arlington
Transportation Advisory Committee**

Minutes of 1/16/07, 7:15 to 9:50 PM, Town Hall Annex 2nd Floor Conference Room

Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener

Members and Associates Present: Guillermo Bahamon, Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Capt. Richard McLaughlin, Erik Moore, Chuck Pappas, Scott Smith, Laura Wiener.

Others present: Chris Loreti (ARB), David Berry (Planning), Paul Marquis, Paul Wilgren

1. Public Comments.
 - Paul Marquis, 13 Swan Street, spoke about inadequate pedestrian access and safety in Arlington Center. Particular concern is Route 60/Mass. Ave. He thinks we need to slow traffic down through the Center, and also recommends raised crosswalks. Scott commented that this was one of the first issues TAC dealt with, and it is a continuing issue.
 - Paul Wilgren, from Chariot Adult Day Health, located at 20 Westminster Ave. (Covenant Church). He wanted to express his concern about making Westminster one way going west. Some of their clients come via “The Ride” (MBTA Handicapped accessible van). This van has access only on the right side, which would put the riders on the wrong side of the street if Westminster became one way.
2. Downing Square. Elisabeth reported that 56% of survey respondents oppose making Westminster a one way street. Concern about putting more cars onto Lowell, which is already heavily traveled, especially when Res. is open for swimming in summer.
3. Administration.
 - December minutes approved unanimously.
 - Germaine Lawrence School—new request from ZBA and Selectmen to look at traffic and parking issues in area (Claremont, Wollaston and abutting streets). Chuck, Guillermo, and Capt. McLaughlin will be on working group. Because it is mostly a parking issue, might be helpful to have Howard or Jeff from Parking Working Group on the subcommittee.
4. Smart Growth for Arlington. Laura (with help of Chris and David) led a discussion based on surveys distributed earlier, regarding priorities for new growth in Arlington. Summary of responses is attached.
5. Mass. Ave. Corridor Phase 1. Four proposals were received, three firms will be interviewed on January 29. Expect work to start in early spring.
6. Crosswalks on Warren Street. Scott and Erik are on the working group. Scott will contact Sylvie Durand-Morris regarding a plan to gather pedestrian counts. It appears that AM Peak (7-8:30) will be the best time to gather counts. Scott noted that the placement of stop sign and stop bar at Allen and Warren Streets may be incorrect. Chris Loreti questioned the placement of a stop sign on left side of Rawson Road.
7. Ravine/Academy/ Irving Parking. Elisabeth, Laura and Howard will look at it in relation to new parking policy.

8. Selectmen's Meeting. Scott reported on very positive and productive meeting with Selectmen on 1/8/07. BoS approved the following recommendation: "For public safety reasons, restrict parking to one side on Palmer between Mass. Ave. and Broadway, Webster between Warren and Broadway, and Franklin from Broadway to #85. Side of street to be determined jointly by Public Safety and DPW. Capt. McLaughlin said he was not very concerned about which side has parking, and would defer to Fire Department.
9. Planning for 2/20 Social. There was general agreement that a potluck at someone's house in Arlington would be nice, if anyone could host the roughly 15 people expected. Guillermo is checking to see if he can host. If no one can host, other options are Masonic Lodge or a restaurant in Arlington Center.
10. School Zones. Start with a survey of existing conditions. Will want to contact principals, PTO's, might need traffic counts. Jeff Maxtutis will assist with State guidelines compliance and Elisabeth will assist with graphic presentations. Laura will do Ottoson.
11. Town News. Capt. McLaughlin mentioned that he has received complaints about audible signals needing adjustment. Republic sent someone out to look at it right away.
12. Meeting adjourned at 9:50.

Handouts:

Ed's Meeting Package:

Memos from Marie Krepelka and Joe Tulimieri re. "Traffic and On-Site Parking Issues" at Germaine Lawrence School, Arlington Advocate article, "TAC offer parking, traffic process improvements", and Arlington Advocate Editorial, "TAC displays its importance again", Active/Planned TAC Projects (1/16/07), Current Minor Project Rotation List (1/16/07), Board of Selectmen Requests (1/16/07),

Laura – Minutes from 12/12/06.

Scott—map of Warren Street